

A 4 THE TORONTO STAR Tuesday, August 9, 1977

Metro man Israeli hero

By RON LOWMYER
Star staff writer

Sid Hurwitz has a secret: and although Israel gave him its Medal of Honour for it, he won't say what it is.

The self-taught electronics expert, who still does appliance repairs at home, knows it scrambled Ugandan President Idi Amin's radar and allowed Israeli aircraft to land undetected during the raid on Entebbe.

That's why he was awarded the medal.

Now 63, a widower, father of two children and grandfather to four, he described his device not as an invention, but simply as "a different use for one of the oldest basic principles of electricity — and it stops bombs from going off."

PREVENT THEFTS

It started out as a device, apparently electro-magnetic, to help banks prevent thefts of money bags from night deposit boxes at their branches. In 1969, Hurwitz called up two police inspector friends, Bill Bolton, now retired, and Dave Cowan, and suggested they bring some bankers' representatives over to his house.

The battery-powered device was hidden under a bedspread, but when he switched it on, no one could lift any of the bags they had brought for the demonstration.

"Neither Dave nor I could pull the triggers on our unloaded service revolvers," Bolton told The Star. "We couldn't even pick them up."

ALL STOPPED

Twenty minutes after they had entered the room, Hurwitz told everybody to

told a Toronto luncheon audience that his plane landed in the cloak of a civilian plane's noise — in darkness. Radar-wise people present took that statement with a large grain of salt.

"I had an idea the device was used at Entebbe," said Hurwitz. "But when the general was bere, I found out for sure that it was. It's flexible and has many uses."

His own synagogue, the orthodox Shaarei Shomayim, took note of his medal and described his instrument as "a secret device which saved thousands of Israeli lives in the operations of war."

On the bronze Israeli medal, in Hebrew and English, are the words: "Four times for war and four times for peace." On the obverse is written: "And all her paths are peace." The engraving shows an olive branch and sword, and on the other side, the sun rising over a ship.

HARANTZ
62025 AM/FM RECEIVER
125+125W WATTS RMS
\$99.95 NOW \$39.95
PRE-TESTED 5-YEAR WARRANTY
BRACK ELECTRONICS
65 MIMICO ST. TOR 5M6-1811

TORONTO'S GOLD CENTRE
COMPARE OUR PRICES
EUROPEAN JEWELLERY
151 Bloor St. E., at University
967-7201
Charg. Master Charge, American Express



—Star photo by Dave Harris
ELECTRONICS EXPERT SID HURWITZ
Invention used in Entebbe raid

NO RESERVES SPECIAL AUCTION SALE

OF

Fabulous and very valuable
exquisite collection of superb

PERSIAN RUGS

FINE ORIENTAL RUGS

SEMI ANTIQUE AND MODERN TRIBAL RUGS

- Best auction sale of the season
- A complete new selection altogether this time
- Best selection picked up from each tribe in finest quality
- All rugs genuine handmade from Iran, Afghanistan, Russia and Pakistan
- Every rug bears guarantee to be exchanged for same value with no time limit
- No minimum starting bid fixed

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11 at 8:00 p.m.
LEASIDE MEMORIAL HALL

(1073 MILLWOOD)

Viewing from 6:00 p.m.

L.A. KHAN, PERSIAN RUG EXPERT

U.S. \$10.00